

## Message Text

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21

ORIGIN AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EB-07 ISO-00 COME-00 /016 R

DRAFTED BY AF/E:RSBARRETT:JT

APPROVED BY AF/E:RSBARRETT

EB:TBRODERICK

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P 212159Z SEP 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 234243

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EINV, ET

SUBJECT: EXPROPRIATED US PROPERTY IN ETHIOPIA: CROWN  
CORK

REF: ADDIS ABABA 7654; STATE 201997

1. CROWN CORK AND SEAL HAS NOW INFORMED US THAT PMG HAS

A) APPOINTED A NEW UNQUALIFIED MANAGING DIRECTOR AND

B) ADVISED THAT IT WISHES TO REPLACE PRICE WATERHOUSE

WITH AN ETHIOPIAN FIRM AS THE COMPANY'S ACCOUNTANTS.

2. CROWN CORK STILL PRIMARILY INTERESTED, HOWEVER,  
IN EXPLORING POSSIBILITY OF RETAINING OR REACQUIRING  
CONTROL OF COMPANY A-CORDING TO CRITERIA IN REFTEL.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: EMBASSY SHOULD MAKE CROWN CORK'S  
INTEREST KNOWN TO PMG POINTING OUT THAT IT WOULD BE IN  
ETHIOPIAN INTEREST TO HAVE FIRM OPERATING AT MAXIMUM  
EFFICIENCY, AT LEAST PENDING PMG DECISIONS ON COMPENSATION,  
AND THAT ALLOWING CROWN CORK TO EXERCISE FULL MANAGEMENT  
PREROGATIVES WOULD BEST BRING THI ABOUT. YOU SHOULD  
ALSO EMPHASIZE CROWN CORK'S INTENTION TO REINVEST PROFITS  
IN COUNTRY. WE LEAVE UP TO YOUR JUDGMENT WHETHER THIS  
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APPROACH SHOULD BE MADE ONLY TO COMPENSATION COMMISSION

OR ALSO TO OTHER COMPONENTS OF PMG. IN THIS RESPECT  
WE SUGGEST THAN AN APPROACH TO PMAC OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE  
FOR NATIONALIZATION MIGHT BE APPROPRIATE AS WELL AS TO  
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY. PLEASE REPORT PMG  
REACTION TO THIS APPROACH RIGHT AWAY SO THAT WE MAY  
INFORM CROWN CORK OF PROSPECTS ALONG THIS LINE. ROBINSON

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Subject:** EXPROPRIATED US PROPERTY IN ETHIOPIA: CROWN CORK  
**TAGS:** EINV, ET, CROWN CORK & SEAL, PRICE WATERHOUSE  
**To:** ADDIS ABABA  
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